

# MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW,

## APRIL, 1874.

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WAR DEPARTMENT,

Office of the Chief Signal Officer,

DIVISION OF

TELEGRAMS AND REPORTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF COMMERCE AND AGRICULTURE

### INTRODUCTORY.

The weather of April has been distinguished by the prevalence of extraordinary rainfall throughout the Southern and Middle States, and equally unusual snows in New England and in Colorado. The courses pursued by the storms have, on the average, been much to the south of their tracks of previous years. The average barometric pressure is unusually high throughout the northern sections of the country. Vegetation is everywhere reported as from ten to twenty days behind its usual condition at the end of the month. Severe floods have been reported from all the tributaries of the Mississippi river, and the result has been that a disastrous overflow has been experienced throughout Mississippi, Louisiana and Arkansas.

### STORMS.

I. The history of this storm belongs chiefly to the month of March; it was central on the 1st of April in the South Atlantic States and disappeared during the day in the Atlantic Ocean.

II. The track of this storm is confined to the extreme northern limits and border of the region of our stations; it passed on the 3d of the month over the mouth of the St. Lawrence, after having produced a slight disturbance in the Lower Lake region.

III. This storm first became visible as a well developed depression in Indian Territory on the morning of the 4th, having apparently travelled northeastward from Texas; its course was in a straight line due northeastward over Lake Erie and the Gulf of St. Lawrence, which latter region was reached on the 6th. Very extensive rains uniformly prevailed over the Southern and Atlantic States and snow over the Lake region and Upper Mississippi valley. Dangerous winds prevailed over the Lower Lakes and Middle Atlantic coasts.

IV. This is first located in Texas, where it very possibly may have originated; it moved eastward into Alabama on the 9th, and thence northeastward to the Middle Atlantic coast on the 10th. Severe northerly gales followed in its rear in the Southwest; northeasterly gales preceded its approach to the Atlantic coast; it then passed northeastward at a short distance off the coasts of New England and Nova Scotia, and was east of Cape Sable on the 11th. This was the most generally severe storm of the month on the Atlantic coast, but was on the New Jersey coast perhaps exceeded by that of the 25th instant.